



## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

The Kentucky Board of Respiratory Care is a Government Agency that regulates respiratory care practitioners and their services. The KBRC was established in 1990 to protect the citizens of the Commonwealth of Kentucky from unsafe practitioners and practices.

## KBRC NEWSLETTER 2011-2012 Winter / Spring

### Board Information

**Tamara McDaniel, RRT**  
Chairman  
**Jeff W. Knight, RRT**  
Vice-Chairman  
**Robert W. Powell, M.D.**  
Board Member  
**Kathleen Kearney Schell**  
Citizen At Large  
**Jeff Smithern, RRT**  
Board Member  
**Janet R. Vogt, RRT**  
Board Member  
**Cheryl Lalonde, AAG**  
Attorney  
**Peggy Lacy Moore**  
Executive Director  
**Rick L. Rose**  
Administrative Assistant



The KBRC Office can be reached at the numbers listed below.

#### **Board Office:**

**163 W. Short Street**  
**Suite 350**  
**Lexington, KY 40507**  
**Phone(859) 246-2747,**  
**Fax: (859) 246-2750 or**  
**online at: <http://kbrc.ky.gov>**



The KBRC is now on:  
**FACEBOOK**

## THE 2012 RENEWAL

The KY Board of Respiratory Care along with the assistance of KY.Gov announces online licensure renewal for respiratory therapists beginning on November 1, 2011. We strongly encourage you to use this service. We are very pleased to offer you the ability to print your renewal I.D. card before you exit the online renewal window.

The KBRC has made changes that will streamline the renewal process and remove some issues regarding CEU acceptability. The CEU page on the online renewal will have some changes. The course number box will be set up to accept only 8 and 9 digit numerical values for approved courses by the KBRC and AARC. (Example: 10206002 or 435500454) The only exception will be ACLS, PALS, NRP, RRT, CRT Recredentialing and RRT Recredentialing.

The help icon will assist you in typing course titles and number of CEUs for those CEU's. (Example: type ACLS into the course number box and type 10 in the CEU amount box.) Any other CEUs that have 8 or 9 digits you will simply input those digits into the course number box. Any other combination will be rejected. (Examples of CEUs that that will be rejected: CEP-245678, 43567-234-2434)

The date box for CEUs will have a two-year (2) limitation. If dates do not comply with the KBRC rules and regulation, then those CEUs will be rejected. Please also remember to print your receipt and your new I.D. renewal card when you finish the renewal. These guidelines are in place to avoid problems with CEU issues before the therapist completes the renewal. If you have questions, please contact the Board office at 859-246-2747 for assistance. Click on the following link to begin the online renewal process.

#### RENEWAL FORM - SUBMIT BY U.S. MAIL

A paper form is provided for any therapists that need to renew by mail. Please click on the following link to print a 2012 renewal form. (Be aware that the same criteria stated above will also comply on the renewal paper forms you submit by mail and will be overviewed by the KBRC).

## **STRICT CEU POLICY WILL BE ENFORCED ON ALL 2012 AND FUTURE RENEWALS.**

The KBRC will strictly enforce the regulations on CEU submissions during the 2012 renewal cycle. The KBRC does not allow CEUs which were obtained **after Dec. 31** for use during the renewal cycle. Read and be aware of the updated **KAR 29:050 Regulation on continuing education** Section 2. Accrual of Continuing Education Units Mandatory; Computation of Accrual.

- (1) A minimum of twenty-four (24) continuing education units shall be accrued by each person holding mandatory certification during the two (2) year certification period for renewal.
- (2) The certification period shall be January 1 of one (1) year through December 31 of the following calendar year. Note: (This is for CEU submission only. Licensure expiration will remain Jan. 30.)
- (3) All units shall be relative to the field of respiratory care. The KY Legislative Research Commission approved KAR 29:050 Regulation on continuing education on November 16, 2011—You can find this information on our website's home page as a link.

## **UNDERSTANDING THE LICENSURE PROCESS** **(From Student to Mandatory)**

Again, we want you to review these important steps for your respiratory license:

**Student or Limited Mandatory License:** (Cost: \$50.00) If the individual is a student and he or she plans to work or needs to work, the student must have this license. It is a 3 year license which allows the student to work under direct supervision in the respiratory field up to the date of graduation or in some cases, passage of NBRC CRT exam. If a student graduates earlier than the 3 year expiration date listed on the student's card, then the remainder of the student license is void.

If a student takes the NBRC CRT exam early and passes, then the student license is void. In each case, the way to avoid being caught without appropriate license is to prepare for the next step of the process in advance. The student should print one of the following license applications and send it to the KBRC with proper payment and required documents prior to graduation or taking the NBRC exam.

1. If the individual plans to work after graduation and prepares for the NBRC exam, then print out a (\$85) *temporary license* and mail in with school confirmation of date of graduation and payment. The application should also contain a fax number of the current employer to receive an approval letter.
2. When the individual takes and passes the NBRC exam, please fax or mail the *Mandatory license* with copy of your NBRC test score sheet, payment and a fax number to receive an approval letter for your employer.

(Continued on next page)

**Temporary License:** (Cost: \$85.00) Is a six (6) month license which begins at your official graduation date and expires in six (6) months or when the individual passes his or her NBRC CRT exam. To avoid a lapse without appropriate license, the individual should prepare for the next step in the process by filling out the *Mandatory application* and sending it to the KBRC prior to taking the CRT exam. Once you have passed, fax a copy of your CRT exam test scores to the KBRC office. Be sure to add a fax number of an employer so a letter can be faxed after the completion by the KBRC.

**Mandatory Licensure:** (Cost: \$125.00) The final step in the process. Provides licensure status to the therapist for a span of two (2) years. The new therapist will enter into the cycle and be given the remainder of the first year and all of the following year, after which the full 2 year cycle will begin. The therapist is required to renew the license every 2 years by online renewal system or by printing out a renewal form from KBRC website during the renewal window of Nov. 1 – January 30. Therapists who renew as Active status will be required to pay \$75.00 renewal fee and submit 24 current CEUs which must be completed before December 30, prior to the license expiration date on January 30. Therapists, who wish to go to Inactive status will have to pay \$25.00 renewal fee and no CEU information needed until you request Active status.



**Be Aware If You Do Not Renew And Attempt To Work Without A License  
(Lapsed Licensure—No Licensure)**

**Too many folks are not aware of their expiration dates.** At the February 2007 meeting the Board discussed guidelines for legal counsel to take actions against individuals who have worked without proper license. The Board charged legal counsel and staff to issue Agreed Orders to those individuals found to have worked illegally, with suspensions of up to two (2 weeks) and fines up to \$750 (\$50 per day). Any other lapse for therapist fined over \$750 and suspended more than two (2) weeks, would need approval by the Board at its next scheduled meeting before a license could be reissued or reinstated, to work again.

## **Helpful CEU information**

**ACLS, PALS - 10 CEUs each, NALS or NRP - 8 CEUs and all ACLS & PALS Instructor courses are 10 CEUs as of 2006 to present. Note: Only licensed therapists can use college courses for CEU purposes which must be approved by the KBRC.**

***Academic courses (a course offered by an accredited post secondary institution) eligible for continuing education credit***

**The following academic courses are eligible for continuing education:**

- A respiratory course above the 300 level**
- A course in biological, psychological, sociological, or physical sciences relevant to patient care and above the 300 level. Relevant means having content applicable to the practice of respiratory care.**
- A course applicable to respiratory care practice and appropriate for the respiratory care practitioner employed in the areas of clinical practice, administration, education, or research.**
- A continuing education course is approved, if it:**
  - Is an organized program of learning;**
  - Pertains to subject matters which integrally relate to the practice of respiratory care and contributes to the professional competency of the licensee, and is conducted by individuals who have educational training or experience acceptable to the Board.**

**Note: If a continuing education course has not been previously accredited by the Board, do not wait until you renew your license to get approval for that course. Your renewal may be delayed. Seek prior approval for continuing education credit on courses not previously accredited by the Board. Students cannot use college courses for future CEU credit.**

**Note: Be careful when trying to use nursing CEUs. Make certain that they have either been approved by the AARC for a determined amount of CEUs or the KBRC has approved them. Some nursing ACLS courses give more CEUs than the KBRC can allow. Respiratory Therapy only allows 10 CEUs for ACLS and PALS.**





## **MORE CEU INFORMATION**

(This information was from our 2005 Newsletter)

Effective January 1, 2005, the KBRC along with the CEU Committee will be issuing both a "provider number" and "course number" to all individuals or organizations submitting CEU applications. Once a provider is given their number, that individual or organization is to use that provider number on all future CEU applications that are submitted to the Board. If a course is denied there will be no course number assigned. When issuing certificates for these programs approved for CEU credit, the certificate must have the course number on it for auditing purposes. This change will make record keeping more efficient for tracking previous CEU approvals. As of November 16, 2011, there is a \$10 charge for KBRC approval.

All courses approved by the AARC do not need to be approved by the KBRC. CEUs approved by the Board for credit can be renewed for one additional renewal. Those CEU courses DO NOT automatically rollover for another renewal. All online CEU courses must be approved by the Board unless they are AARC approved or have been approved by the Board previously. If you have any doubts, contact the Board at (859) 246-2747.

New information as of March 2005 regarding these CEUs is as follows and begins in July 2005

<b>Basic CPR or BLS</b>	<b>No CEU credit</b>
<b>ACLS</b>	<b>10 CEU's</b>
<b>NALS or NRP</b>	<b>8 CEU's</b>
<b>PALS</b>	<b>10 CEU's</b>

**Instructor Course (s) for the above:**  
**First time:** **10 CEU'S**

<b>CRT Recredentialing</b>	<b>10 CEU's</b>
<b>RRT Recredentialing</b>	<b>15 CEU's</b>



# NBRC Policies

## Why adopt a three-year time limit to pass the RRT Examination after graduating from an advanced-level program?

NBRC approved the three (3)-year time limit in 2005 to ensure that individuals who consider themselves “registry eligible” have taken and passed the RRT Examination and demonstrated their knowledge and competence.

In 2003, the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC), the Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC), and the NBRC recognized the RRT credential as the “standard of excellence” for respiratory care professionals. At the request of the AARC and CoARC, NBRC approved a policy on Jan. 1, 2005 that requires graduates of advanced-level programs to complete the CRT and RRT Examinations within three (3) years of graduation. The policy also required advanced-level graduates with an associate degree who had already earned the CRT credential to complete the RRT by December 31, 2007.

## The NBRC Continuing Competency Program

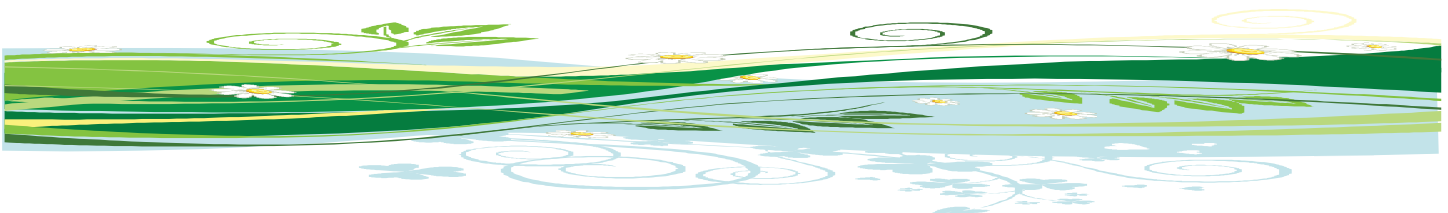
### How does this relate to me and my credentials?

To answer this question completely. You need to go to the NBRC website and read what they have set forth as guidelines for the program and see if you fall within them. Here is the link to take you right to the page. Copy and paste into your search box and click go. <https://www.nbrc.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=Jcqkm%2fjPiHg%3d&tabid=60&mid=490>

[fileticket=Jcqkm%2fjPiHg%3d&tabid=60&mid=490](https://www.nbrc.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=Jcqkm%2fjPiHg%3d&tabid=60&mid=490)

The NBRC gives you three options to take care of your credentials.

**Always remember the NBRC will handle all credentialing issues, while the KBRC will take care of all state licensure matters.**



## **IMPORTANT DATES & EVENTS**



### **Kentucky Board of Respiratory Care Meeting Dates 2012**

Thursday, February 16, 2012, 5:30 p.m.,  
KBRC Offices - 163 W. Short Street, Lexington, KY  
40507 (Due to weather: Alternate date: Feb. 23,  
2012)

Thursday, April 19, 2012, 5:30 p.m.,  
KBRC Offices - 163 W. Short Street, Lexington, KY  
40507

Thursday, June 21, 2012, 5:30 p.m.,  
KBRC Offices - 163 W. Short Street, Lexington, KY  
40507

Thursday, August 16, 2012, 5:30 p.m.,  
KBRC Offices - 163 W. Short Street, Lexington, KY  
40507

Thursday, October 18, 2012, 5:30 p.m.,  
KBRC Offices - 163 W. Short Street, Lexington, KY  
40507

Thursday, December 13, 2012, 5:30 p.m.,  
KBRC Offices - Dinner meeting, Location TBA, In  
Lexington, KY.



### **Kathleen Kearney Schell, New Citizen At Large**

The Kentucky Board of Respiratory Care would like to introduce and welcome our new Citizen At Large, Ms. Kathleen Kearney Schell. Ms. Schell currently is employed as General Counsel for the Commonwealth of KY Board of Embalmers & Funeral Dir. She holds a Juris Doctorate from University of Louisville School of Law and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Bellarmine University. We look forward to her participation and input during her term with the KBRC.

## **FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

**By Tami McDaniel**

### **Understanding the Continuing Education Requirements**



“I can’t believe they don’t count. I paid \$50 for those CEU’s!” Unfortunately this is what we frequently heard at the KBRC this year. Many people were surprised and upset that the continuing education they had obtained would not count toward their renewal.

Continuing education is a vital element in the regulation of professional boards. The KBRC requires 24 continuing educational units for mandatory certificate renewal every two years. By law, the CEU’s must be obtained by Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> of the renewal cycle in which your mandatory certificate expires. This means that if your mandatory certificate expires Jan. 30, 2012 you have to obtain your CEU’s by Dec. 31, 2011. The law also defines what is considered a relevant CEU offering.

After this past renewal cycle the KBRC decided it was time to change the regulation to make the entire CEU process more clear. The revisions to 201 KAR 29:050 will make clear the method of acquiring CEU’s, the procedure for pre-approval of a CEU by a sponsor, the procedure for post-approval by an individual, the responsibilities of the certificate holder and the audit process.

In a nutshell, to receive credit for a course, it must be approved by either the KBRC or the AARC. Approval by the KBRC can be done by the “sponsor” before the offering or after the offering by a certificate holder that has attended a class or a conference that was not pre-approved by the KBRC. The audit process has been changed to, among other things, increase the percent of audited practitioners from a maximum of 15% to a minimum of 15%.

Another issue we had this year was that some companies were advertising “Kentucky” approved CEU’s that were not valid and in fact had not been turned in to the KBRC for approval. Always make sure the courses are approved before you take them. Go to [www.kbrc.ky.gov](http://www.kbrc.ky.gov) for a list of all approved courses.

I hope this information will help you be more prepared for your renewal. As always, if you have any questions you can contact us at the KBRC.



## **CT Scans for Lung Cancer Screening May Be Beneficial in Detecting COPD**

*Science Daily (Oct. 25, 2011)* — Among men who were current or former heavy smokers, undergoing lung cancer screening with computed tomography (CT) scanning identified a substantial proportion who had chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), suggesting that this method may be helpful as an additional tool in detecting COPD, according to a study in the Oct. 26 issue of *JAMA*.

"Smoking is annually projected to cause more than 8 million deaths worldwide in the coming decades. Besides cardiovascular disease and cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease is a major cause of death in heavy smokers. Nevertheless, COPD is substantially underdiagnosed. Despite a decrease in cardiovascular mortality and stabilization of cancer mortality worldwide, mortality from COPD is increasing," according to background information in the article. Early cessation of smoking can prevent COPD progression, underscoring the importance of early detection. Computed tomography-based lung cancer screening may provide an opportunity to detect individuals with COPD at an early stage.

Onno M. Mets, M.D., of the University Medical Center Utrecht, the Netherlands, and colleagues conducted a study to examine whether low-dose lung cancer screening CT scans could be used to identify participants with COPD. The study, conducted within an ongoing lung cancer screening trial, included prebronchodilator pulmonary function testing with inspiratory (inhalation of air into the lungs) and expiratory (exhalation of air from the lungs) CT scans performed on the same day from 1,140 male participants between July 2007 and September 2008. The pulmonary function tests were used as the reference standard in determining the COPD diagnostic accuracy of the CT scans.

The average age of participants was 62.5 years. Data for self-reported respiratory symptoms were available from 1,085 participants; a total of 566 participants were symptomatic, and 519 participants were asymptomatic. Forty-one participants (3.6 percent) reported physician-diagnosed emphysema and 93 (8.2 percent), bronchitis. Based on the results of pulmonary function testing, 437 participants (38 percent) were classified as having COPD.

The final diagnostic model for the study included 5 factors independently associated with obstructive pulmonary disease: CT emphysema, CT air trapping (an abnormal retention of air in the lungs), body mass index, pack-years (the number of packs of cigarettes smoked per day multiplied by the number of years the person has smoked), and smoking status. Using the point of optimal accuracy, the model identified 274 participants with COPD with 85 false-positives, a sensitivity of 63 percent, a specificity of 88 percent, and a positive predictive value of 76 percent, which corresponds to 63 percent (274 of 437) of all participants with COPD. These 274 participants comprised 54 percent (150 of 277) of all participants with mild obstruction, 73 percent (99 of 135) of all participants with moderate obstruction, and 100 percent (25 of 25) of all participants with severe obstruction.

(You can finish this article by going online to: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/>)



If you did not get a chance to read the last issue of the KBRC Newsletter, You can still find it available at the KBRC website: <http://kbrc.ky.gov>

The KBRC website can help you find answers regarding your licensure, scope of practice, continuing education and verification questions. You may contact us at: (859) 246-2747 Fax: (859) 246-2750 with questions or inquiries.

*The KBRC Newsletter is produced by Rick Rose, edited by Janet Vogt and Peggy Lacy Moore.*

***The KBRC Board is self-supporting and receives no general fund tax appropriation. It is funded through fees assessed for licensing its professionals.***



If you want to file a complaint or address an issue of concern to the Board, submit a written statement with as much detail as possible including your name, names involved in the complaint or issue, phone numbers and summary of your complaint and mail to the KBRC office at the address below. Attention: Peggy Lacy Moore, Executive Director.

**KENTUCKY BOARD OF RESPIRATORY  
CARE**

**Traditional Bank Building  
163 West Short Street, Suite 350  
Lexington, KY 40507  
Phone: (859) 246 - 2747  
Fax: (859) 246 - 2750  
Web Address: <http://kbrc.ky.gov>**